

# SIYAC 2021 - 2022 MEMBERS



## **ABBY KING (SHE,HER,HERS)**

ABBY IS A 1ST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A FRESHMAN AT DRAKE UNIVERSITY, TRIPLE MAJORING IN POLITICS, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND STRATEGIC POLITICAL COMMUNICATION. ABBY SERVED ON IYC FOR ONE YEAR AND WAS A FACILITATOR FOR THE NEW DHR PROGRAM, THE YOUTH ACTION SQUADS. ABBY ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH HER CHICKENS, DOGS, AND PLANTS. ABBY ALSO ENJOYS PAINTING, PLAYING THE FRENCH HORN, AND SHOPPING AT TARGET.



## **ACHINTEYA JAYARAM (HE,HIM,HIS)**

ACHINTEYA JAYARAM IS A SECOND YEAR MEMBER OF SIYAC. HE IS A SOPHOMORE AT PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL IN BETTENDORF, IOWA. IN HIS FREE TIME, HE IS A MEMBER OF THE WINTER SOLDIERS, A ROBOTICS TEAM THAT'S ADVANCED TO WORLDS, PLAYS JV TENNIS, PLAYS THE VIOLA IN THE QUAD CITIES YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, AND ALSO PLAYS BASS CLARINET FOR THE SCHOOL BAND. HE LIKES WATCHING SPORTS AND RESEARCHING CRYPTOCURRENCIES. ACHINTEYA IS EXCITED TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN HIS COMMUNITY IN THE 2021-2022 YEAR.



## **BRENDA KOUMONDIJI (SHE,HER,HERS)**

BRENDA KOUMONDJI IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A SENIOR AT CEDAR FALLS HIGH SCHOOL IN CEDAR FALLS, IA. BRENDA JOINED SIYAC TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY AND MAKE CHANGE. SHE GREW UP IN CAMEROON AND MOVED TO THE USA AT 12 YEARS OLD. SHE HAS NO SOLID PLANS FOR THE FUTURE, BUT HOPES THE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL WILL HELP DETERMINE SOME PASSIONS AND INTERESTS.



## **ERIC JOHNSON (HE,HIM,HIS)**

ERIC IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. HE IS A FRESHMAN AT ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL. ERIC IS THE CEO OF JOHNSON'S SNO SHACK, LOCATED IN ROCK VALLEY, IOWA. IN HIS FREE TIME, ERIC PARTICIPATES IN MULTIPLE SPORTS AND LOVES BEING ACTIVE. HE LOVES TO TALK ABOUT POLITICAL THINGS THAT CAN CHANGE HIS AND OTHERS FUTURES FOR THE BETTER.

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## **FOLASADE OLAWOYE (SHE,HER,HERS)**

FOLASADE IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A FRESHMAN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA MAJORING IN PSYCHOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES. FOLASADE HAS SPECIAL INTERESTS IN HUMANITIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS WITH AN EMPHASIS IN LEGISLATION AND ADVOCACY. FOLASADE JOINED SIYAC TO UPLIFT ADVOCACY FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES AND FOR YOUTH WITH INCARCERATED PARENTS. SHE IS EXCITED FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT SIYAC CAN BRING AND TO MEET ALL OF THE COOL, LIKE-MINDED YOUTH ON HER JOURNEY THROUGH SIYAC.



## **HANNAH DILLEHAY (SHE,HER,HERS)**

HANNAH DILLEHAY IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A JUNIOR AT ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL. HANNAH HAS A PASSION FOR DANCE AND IS A CAPTION ON THE DANCE TEAM AT HER SCHOOL. SHE ALSO PARTICIPATES AS A MEMBER OF THE KERRI'S DANCE STUDIO COMPETITION TEAM. SHE ALSO PARTICIPATES IN STUDENT COUNCIL, NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, YEARBOOK, POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM AND TRACK. IN HER FREE TIME SHE ENJOYS CAMPING AND SPENDING TIME WITH HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY. HANNAH IS EXCITED TO ADVOCATE FOR IOWA'S YOUTH THROUGH SIYAC.



## **JAMES PIAZZA (HE,HIM,HIS)**

JAMES PIAZZA IS THE CHAIR AND A SECOND-YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. HE IS A FRESHMAN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA WHERE HE IS MAJORING IN SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCES. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM AT IOWA. IN HIS FREE TIME, JAMES LIKES TO SPEND TIME OUTDOORS HAMMOCKING, RIDING BIKES, OR MAKING MUSIC. HIS INTERESTS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: MUSIC, PHILOSOPHY, PHYSICS, AND POLITICS.



## **KENDALL JONES (HE,HIM,HIS)**

KENDALL JONES IS A 2ND YEAR SIYAC MEMBER AND IS A JUNIOR AT OTTUMWA HIGH SCHOOL. HE ENJOYS MATH AND CHEMISTRY. KENDALL COMES FROM A BIG FAMILY OF SEVEN SIBLINGS- 5 BROTHERS AND 2 SISTERS. AFTER HIGH SCHOOL, KENDALL WANTS TO BE AN ENGINEER AND GO TO IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

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## **KLAERTJE HESSELINK (SHE,HER,HERS)**

KLAERTJE HESSELINK IS A SECOND YEAR SIYAC MEMBER AND IS THE SERVICE CHAIR FOR THE SIYAC TERM OF 2021-2022. SHE IS A SENIOR AT CEDAR FALLS HIGH SCHOOL IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY, IOWA AND IS THE PRESIDENT OF HER SCHOOL'S VOLUNTEER CLUB. SHE IS ALSO A PART OF THE YOUTH OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROVIDER COMMITTEE WHICH ARE VOLUNTEER RELATED ORGANIZATIONS LED BY VOLUNTEER IOWA. OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL, SHE ALSO ENJOYS PRACTICING HER VIOLIN AND MAKING PASTRY AND CONFECTIONERY ART. KLAERTJE IS VERY INTERESTED IN THE SCIENCES AND AIMS TO BECOME A CHEMICAL ENGINEER IN THE FUTURE.



## **KORO CASTILLO (SHE,HER,HERS)**

KORO CASTILLO IS A SECOND YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A SENIOR AT CEDAR FALLS HIGH SCHOOL IN BLACK HAWK COUNTY, IOWA. KORO ENJOYS DANCING AND COMPETES ON BOTH HER SCHOOL'S DANCE TEAM AND ON A STUDIO DANCE TEAM. SHE LOVES TO SING IN HER SCHOOL'S CONCERT CHOIR AND PLAYS THE PIANO. SHE ALSO ENJOYS HER TIME AS A MEMBER OF THE VOLUNTEER CLUB AT HER SCHOOL. KORO IS PASSIONATE ABOUT PROMOTING YOUTH VOICE AND ENDING GOVERNMENT DISTRUST AMONG YOUNG IOWANS. SHE'S EXCITED TO CONTINUE HER SIYAC TERM AND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH IOWA YOUTH FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE BEING HEARD.



## **LILY GLENN (SHE,HER,HERS)**

LILY GLENN IS A THIRD YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A SENIOR FROM WAPELLO COUNTY. LILY IS VERY ACTIVE IN HER LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA WHERE SHE IS THE CURRENT CONCERT MISTRESS AND HELPS OUT WITH THE ORCHESTRA LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE. SHE IS ALSO ACTIVE IN 4-H AND COUNTY COUNCIL. SHE HAS BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE THE SECRETARY FOR HER 4-H CLUB.



## **LULU ROARICK (SHE,HER,HERS)**

LULU ROARICK IS A SECOND YEAR SIYAC MEMBER, AND IS SERVING AS SECRETARY FOR THE 2021-2022 TERM. SHE IS A SOPHOMORE AT CITY HIGH SCHOOL IN JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA. SHE IS PASSIONATE ABOUT THE YOUTH VOICE, AND SERVES ON THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN HER SCHOOL DISTRICT AS WELL AS PARTICIPATING IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT. LULU WRITES FOR THEIR LOCAL NEWSPAPER THE LITTLE HAWK COVERING STUDENT VOICE, DISSECTING LOCAL ISSUES, AND SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS. SHE BELIEVES IN YOUTH BEING HEARD ON ALL SYSTEMS THEY ARE A PART OF, AND BELIEVES SIYAC IS A WONDERFUL TOOL TO GET THAT DONE.



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## **MONICA MALEK (SHE,HER,HERS)**

MONICA IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A SOPHMORE AT NORTH HIGH SCHOOL. MONICA IS VERY PASSIONATE ABOUT SCHOOL AND LOVES TO WRITE AND LISTEN TO MUSIC. MONICA ALSO ENJOYS BEING OUTSIDE WHEN THE WEATHER IS NICE. SOME STRENGTHS MONICA HAS INCLUDE BEING RESPONSIBLE, HELPFUL, AND RESILIENT. MONICA STRIVES TO BE A GOOD LEADER.



## **PARAS BASSUK (HE, HIM, HIS, THEY,THEM)**

PARAS BASSUK (THEY/THEM) IS A 2ND YEAR SIYAC MEMBER AND SERVES AS THE LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS CHAIR AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR. PARAS IS A FRESHMAN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA WHERE THEY ARE A PSYCHOLOGY B.S. MAJOR WITH A SPANISH MINOR AND AN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY MINOR. PARAS IS ORIGINALLY FROM IOWA CITY. PARAS IS AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE IOWA CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, INCLUDING BEING THE CO-CHAIR OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE. PARAS HAS ADVOCATED FOR EQUITABLE CURRICULUM REFORM, SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY REFORM, STUDENT VOICE IN SCHOOLS, QUALITY CIVICS EDUCATION CURRICULUM REFORM, LGBTQ+ RIGHTS, AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO POST SECONDARY RESOURCES FOR K-12 STUDENTS IN IOWA. PARAS IS ALSO A MUSICIAN IN THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND THE GOLD JAZZ COMBO, A PHOTOGRAPHER, AND A VISUAL ARTIST. THEY ARE SO EXCITED TO IMPLEMENT MEANINGFUL POLICY CHANGE AT THE STATE-LEVEL THROUGH SIYAC AND ARE HONORED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPRESENT THE YOUTH OF IOWA.



## **REYNA ROACH (THEY,THEM, THEIRS)**

REYNA ROACH (THEY/THEM) IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. THEY ARE A SOPHOMORE AT IOWA CITY HIGH SCHOOL. REYNA IS A PARTICIPANT IN THEIR MOCK TRIAL AND MODEL UN TEAMS, AND A MEMBER OF THEIR DISTRICTS EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SPEECH AND DEBATE CLUB. THEY PLAY OBOE AND ALTO SAXOPHONE FOR THEIR SCHOOLS WIND ENSAMBLE, MARCHING BAND, AND JAZZ BAND. REYNA IS A CITIZEN OF THE SHAWNEE TRIBE. THEY ARE BILINGUAL IN ITALIAN, ENGLISH, AND LEARNING SHAWNEE.



## **SOOMIN KOH (SHE,HER,HERS)**

SOOMIN KOH IS A SECOND-YEAR SIYAC MEMBER, SERVING AS THIS YEAR'S EXECUTIVE VICE-CHAIR. SHE IS A SENIOR AT IOWA CITY WEST HIGH SCHOOL. OUTSIDE OF SIYAC, SOOMIN IS AN EDITOR FOR HER SCHOOL NEWSPAPER AND CO-FOUNDER OF HER SCHOOL'S KOREAN CULTURE CLUB. SHE IS ALSO THE CO-CHAIR OF THE VOLUNTEER IOWA YOUTH OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE. TWO SUMMERS AGO, SHE TRANSLATED FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS IN GUATEMALA IN SPANISH, KOREAN, AND ENGLISH. IN HER FREE TIME, SHE ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH HER DOG, MOCHA, AND EATING MATCHA ICE CREAM. SOOMIN CANNOT WAIT FOR THE 2021-22 SIYAC YEAR AND TO COLLABORATE WITH THE YOUTH OF IOWA.

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## **SOPHIA POLKING (SHE,HER,HERS)**

SOPHIA POLKING IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A JUNIOR AT CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL. SOPHIA PARTICIPATES IN SWIMMING, SOCCER, SPEECH, DRAMA, MOCK TRIAL, STUDENT SENAT, BAND AND CHORUS THROUGH HER HIGH SCHOOL. IN HER FREE TIME, SOPHIA READS, WRITES POETRY, SHOPS, AND SPENDS TIME WITH HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY. SOPHIA IS EXCITED FOR THE CHANCE TO ADVOCATE AND CREATE CHANGE THROUGH SIYAC.



## **TATE GIESEMANN (HE, HIM,HIS)**

TATE GIESEMAN IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. HE IS A FRESHMAN AT BELLEVUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT. TATE IS INVOLVED IN FOOTBALL AND SERVES AS HIS CLASS TREASURER. TATE IS ALSO INVOLVED IN HIS LOCAL SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON AND IS A MEMBER OF THE EASTON VALLEY TRAPSHOOT TEAM. TATE HAS TAKEN PIANO LESSONS FOR MANY YEARS.



## **TREY VOELLER (HE,HIM,HIS)**

TREY VOELLER IS A FIRST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. HE IS A JUNIOR AT PRAIRE CITY-MONROE HIGH SCHOOL. IN HIS FREE TIME, TREY LIKES TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL, SPEDN TIME WITH LOVED ONES, AND GO HIKING. TREY IS A MEMBER OF FFA, NHS, NS HSS, AND PLAYS ALTO SAXOPHONE FOR HIS SCHOOL BAND. HE IS PASSIONATE ABOUT STANDING UP AGAINST INEQUITIES AND ENJOYS VOLUNTEERING WHEREVER HE MAY BE NEEDED. TREY IS EXCITED TO ADVOCATE FOR SEVERAL ISSUES CONCERNING IOWA'S YOUTH AND HOPES TO MAKE A GREATER DIFFERENCE IN HIS OWN COMMUNITY AS WELL!



## **VOLTA ADOVOR (SHE,HER,HERS)**

VOLTA IS A 1ST YEAR SIYAC MEMBER. SHE IS A FRESHMAN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA, STUDYING BIOCHEMISTRY ON A PRE-PHARMACY TRACK. VOLTA ALSO WILL BE MINORING IN FRENCH. VOLTA SERVED ON IYC FOR TWO YEARS AND WAS A FACILITATOR FOR THE NEW DHR PROGRAM, THE YOUTH ACTION SQUADS. VOLTA ENJOYS SPENDING TIME WITH FAMILY AND TRYING NEW FOOD WITH FRIENDS. VOLTA ALSO ENJOYS SUPPORTING THE ENVIRONMENT, SOCIAL ISSUES, AND BUTING PLANTS.